

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed April 5, 2005. Upon entry of this response, claims 1-61 are pending in the present application. In this response, claims 1, 19, 37, and 54 have been amended. Applicants respectfully request that there be reconsideration of all pending claims.

1. Claim Objections

The Office Action objects to claims 9, 10, 27 and 28 because of the following informalities: “‘said first communication device’ should be ‘said second communication device’”. The Office Action also states that an amendment filed November 29, 2000 includes the language “said second communication device” instead of “said first communication device”. The Office Action further indicates that appropriate correction is required.

Applicants submit with this response a claim listing that includes claims 9, 10, 27, and 28 as presented in the amendment filed November 29, 2000, along with the correct status identifier “Previously Presented.” Applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

2. Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 7-11, 16-21, 23, 25-29, 34-41, 43-48, 51-52, 54-57 and 60-61 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-11, 16-21, 23, 25-29, 34-41, 43-48, 51-52, 54-57 and 60-61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Hassell* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,625,114) in view of *Dinh* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,625,114). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection, and respectfully assert that *Hassell* qualifies as a prior art reference only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g). Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that the exception of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) is applicable. Specifically, 35 U.S.C. 103(c) states:

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

The inventive entity of the *Hassell* reference (Hassell) is different than the inventive entity of the instant application (Hassell et al.) Therefore, the reference is “by another person.” Furthermore, the *Hassell* reference was assigned to Paradyne Corporation, at the time the invention was made and including at least through the time of filing of the instant application. Similarly, at the time the invention was made and including at least through the time of filing of the instant application, the subject matter of the instant application was assigned to Paradyne Corporation. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) have been met and that *Hassell* is not a proper reference for rejecting the presently pending claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Rejection of Claims 4, 6, 22, 24, 42, and 53 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 4, 6, 22, 24, 42, and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Hassell* in view of *Dinh* in further view of Applicants’ admitted prior art. Because independent claims 1, 19 and 54 are allowable over the cited art of record, dependent claims 4, 6, 22, 24, 42, and 53 are allowable as a matter of law for at least the reason that the these dependent claims contains all features/elements of their respective independent base claim. Accordingly, the rejection to these claims should be withdrawn.

4. Rejection of Claims 12, 30 and 58 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 12, 30 and 58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Hassell* in further view of *Dinh* in further view of *Hasenstein* (Diplomarbeit: IP Network Address Translation. 1997, Pages 1-13). Because independent claims 1, 19 and 54 are allowable over the cited art of record, dependent claims 12, 30 and 58 are allowable as a matter of law for at least the reason that the these dependent claims contains all features/elements of their respective independent base claim. Accordingly, the rejection to these claims should be withdrawn.

5. Rejection of Claims 13-14, 31-32 and 49-50 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 13-14, 31-32 and 49-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Hassell* in view of *Dinh* in further view of *Mack* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,192,044). Because independent claims 1, 19 and 54 are allowable over the cited art of

record, dependent claims 13-14, 31-32 and 49-50 are allowable as a matter of law for at least the reason that the these dependent claims contains all features/elements of their respective independent base claim. Accordingly, the rejection to these claims should be withdrawn.

6. Rejection of Claims 15, 33 and 59 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, claims 13-14, 31-32 and 49-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Hassell* in view of *Dinh* in further view of *Sheresh* (Proxy Server 2.0. April, 1999, Pages 1-5). Because independent claims 1, 19 and 54 are allowable over the cited art of record, dependent claims 15, 33 and 59 are allowable as a matter of law for at least the reason that the these dependent claims contains all features/elements of their respective independent base claim. Accordingly, the rejection to these claims should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that pending claims 1-61 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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